

**BEFORE THE GEORGIA GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY AND
CAMPAIGN FINANCE COMMISSION
STATE OF GEORGIA**

IN THE MATTER OF:

*

CASE NO.

*

TAMELA ADKINS

*

21-0003-C

CONSENT ORDER

This matter comes before the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission ("Commission") pursuant to a complaint filed *sua sponte* by the Commission on January 13, 2021. Prior to a final hearing on this matter, Tamela Adkins ("Respondent") and the Commission agree to resolve the above-styled matter by Consent Order under the terms and conditions described herein.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Respondent was a candidate for Superior Court Judge for a four-year term in Gwinnett County during the November 3, 2020 election cycle. Respondent qualified as a candidate on March 6, 2020. Respondent filed her Declaration of Intention to Accept Campaign Contributions ("DOI") on March 24, 2020. Respondent was the successful candidate in the election for Gwinnett County Superior Court Judge. During her tenure as a candidate and elected official for said office, Respondent is subject to the filing rules and requirements of the Commission.

As a candidate and elected official, Respondent is required to disclose contributions and expenditures at prescribed times by filing campaign contribution disclosure reports (CCDR). On five occasions Respondent failed to file a CCDR which would have disclosed contributions and expenditures relating to her campaign. *See generally* O.C.G.A. § 21-5-34. These violations relate to the April 30, 2020 election year CCDR, June 30, 2020 election year CCDR, September 30, 2020 election year CCDR, October 25, 2020 election year CCDR, and December 31, 2020 election year CCDR.

Upon receipt of this Complaint, Respondent immediately contacted commission staff and filed all the necessary CCDR's that had failed to be filed. Commission staff reviewed the filings and other documents provided by Respondent and determined that Respondent self-funded her own campaign and did not take any contributions from outside sources. Respondent was extremely cooperative and communicative with commission staff and worked to bring her filings into compliance.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Commission finds that Respondent violated the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Act in that Respondent:

1. Respondent failed to file five Campaign Contribution Disclosure Reports in violation of O.C.G.A. § 21-5-34(c)

HOLDING

In resolving this matter, Respondent hereby agrees to the following:

Respondent must pay late fees totaling \$2,500.00 for failing to file her CCDDR's pursuant to O.C.G.A § 21-5-34(c).

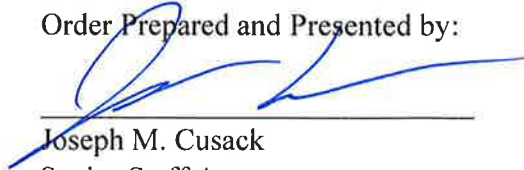
Respondent further agrees not to commit any further violations of the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Act and corresponding Commission Rules.

Respondent represents that the foregoing findings of facts are true, agrees with the conclusions of law, and further agrees to abide by all terms of this Order. By signing this Order, Respondent waives any right to appeal pursuant to the procedures outlined in the Administrative Procedures Act ("APA"), O.C.G.A. § 50-13-1 *et. seq.*

Failure to comply with the terms herein, absent a showing of good faith, will constitute a willful and knowing violation of said terms by Respondent. Respondent's failure to comply with said terms shall constitute a breach of this agreement and thereby authorize the Commission to seek enforcement and/or collection of this order by subsequent contempt or other proceedings against the Respondent in the Superior Court for the State of Georgia. The parties agree that all costs and attorneys' fees incurred by the Commission in any enforcement action shall be assessed against Respondent pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-5-6(b)(14)(C)(iv).

The Commission adopts the foregoing findings of fact and conclusions of law and orders the implementation of the terms of this Consent Order.

Order Prepared and Presented by:



Joseph M. Cusack
Senior Staff Attorney
Bar No.: 492674



Pamela Adkins
Respondent

SO ORDERED this 24th day of June, 2021.

Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission

BY:



Jake Evans, Chair